International Standard

ISO 6593

Information processing — Program flow for processing sequential files in terms of record groups

Traitement de l'information — Organigramme de traitement de fichiers séquentiels à enregistrements hiérarchisés

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for approval before their acceptance as International Standards by the ISO Council. They are approved in accordance with ISO procedures requiring at least 75 % approval by the member bodies voting.

International Standard ISO 6593 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 97, *Information processing systems*.

Users should note that all International Standards undergo revision from time to time and that any reference made herein to any other International Standard implies its latest edition, unless otherwise stated.

Contents

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1 Scope and field of application

1.1 This International Standard describes two alternative general procedures (method A and method B) for any program which is required to process sequential files which have been logically organized in terms of groups of records.

Method A — Checks the control head condition after the termination of the appropriate level

Method B — Checks the control head condition before the initiation of the appropriate level.

Both are based upon the recognition that for each record which is to be processed a change, or lack of change, in the value of an item in that record may affect the flow of control.

1.2 The procedures described may be used as the basis for designing any program in which

a)   one or more input files are to be processed sequentially;

b)   each input file is accessed in a defined order of logical groups of records;

c)   the records held in each input file contain specified items of data which may be used to determine whether or not a change of control is required in the processing sequence.

1.3 The procedures described in this International Standard are subject to the following constraints:

a)   The items of data which may determine control changes are organized into a logical sequence of levels such that a change of control at one level implies changes of control at subordinate levels.

b)   Only input files processed sequentially are described in this International Standard.

c)   The procedures described do not detail the routines that depend on user problem or installation, especially:

1)   complete procedure initiation;

2)   the sequence in which input files are to be accessed, if more than one;

3)   the means of assembling a logical record for processing;

4)   the actions to be taken when a control break at any level does, or does not exist;

5)   normal processing, if any;

6)   complete procedure termination.